

Quarterly Update of Activities of the Delta Watermaster

Michael Patrick George
Delta Watermaster



DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

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Overview

- Publication of Consumptive Use Study
- Rollout of Senior Water Right Review
- Water Quality Plan Update
- Challenges of Implementing Diversion Measurement Regulation in the Delta
- Planning for Climate Change



Study of Crop Consumptive Use in the Delta

- Peer Review Completed
- Final Draft Report Distributed to Sponsoring Organizations
- Major Advance in Remote Sensing Application
- Follow-up Research Funded for 2018
(Consumptive Use of Fallowed Cropland)
- Open Water, Riparian Vegetation, Floating Weeds
Are Next (but currently unfunded)

What Have We Learned?

How Will We Apply It?

- Remote Sensing of Consumptive Use Provides Accurate Estimates
 - ✓ “Close Enough for Government Work”
 - ✓ Basis for “Rebuttable Presumption” of Consumptive Use
 - ✓ Creates “Crowd Correction” Feedback Loop
 - ✓ Improves Transparency, Timeliness; Reduces Cost and Controversy
- Open Evapotranspiration: Make Accessible, Understandable and Actionable
- Implications for Both Operations & Management and Long-term Planning

Rollout of Documentation Supporting Senior Water Rights Claims in Delta Watershed

Background: Information Order Issued in 2015 to Gather Data about Seniors' Use

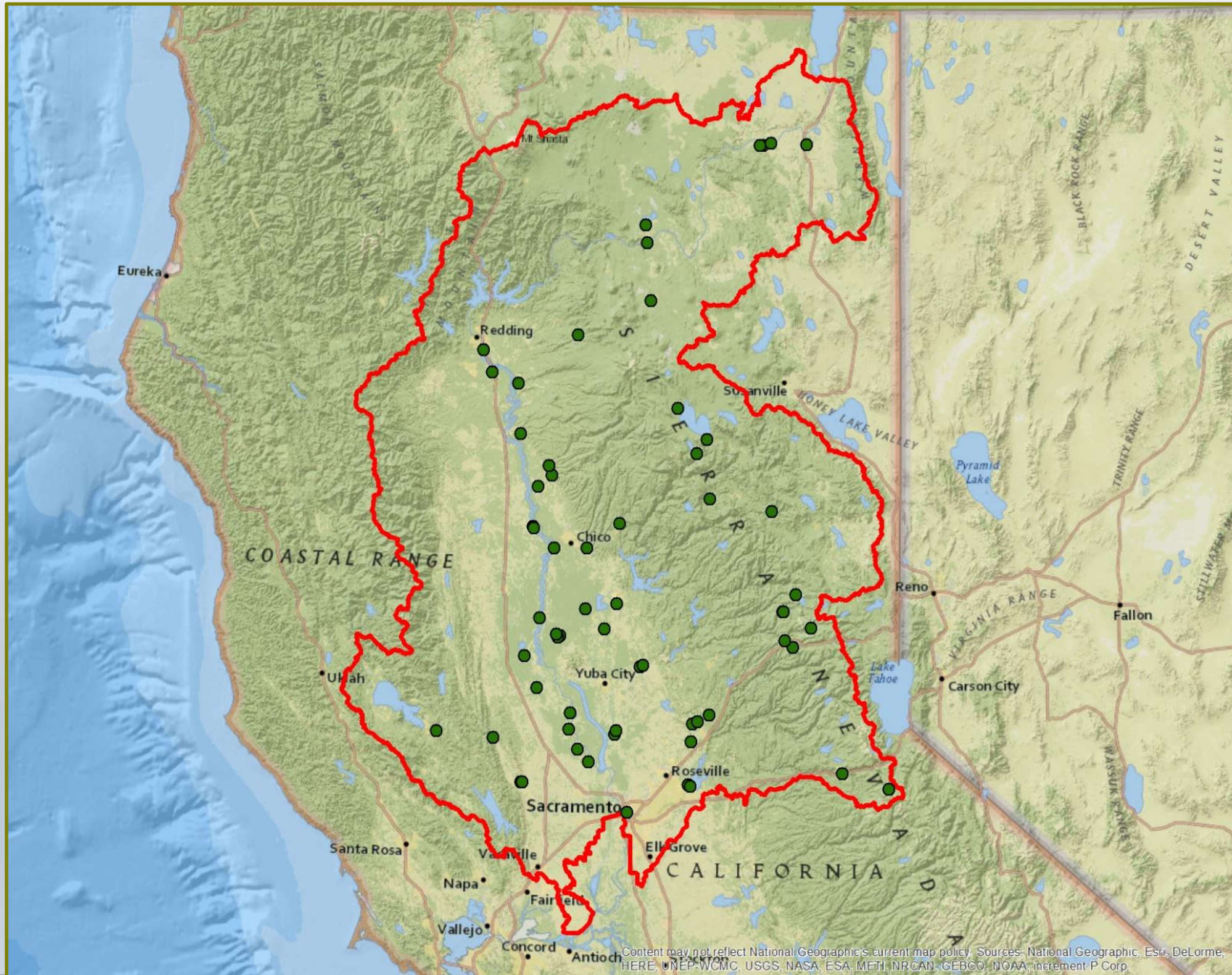
Responses from 1,061 Claims Accounting for 90% of Reported Use

Materials Posted to the Web Last Week and Presented to the State Water Board on Tuesday

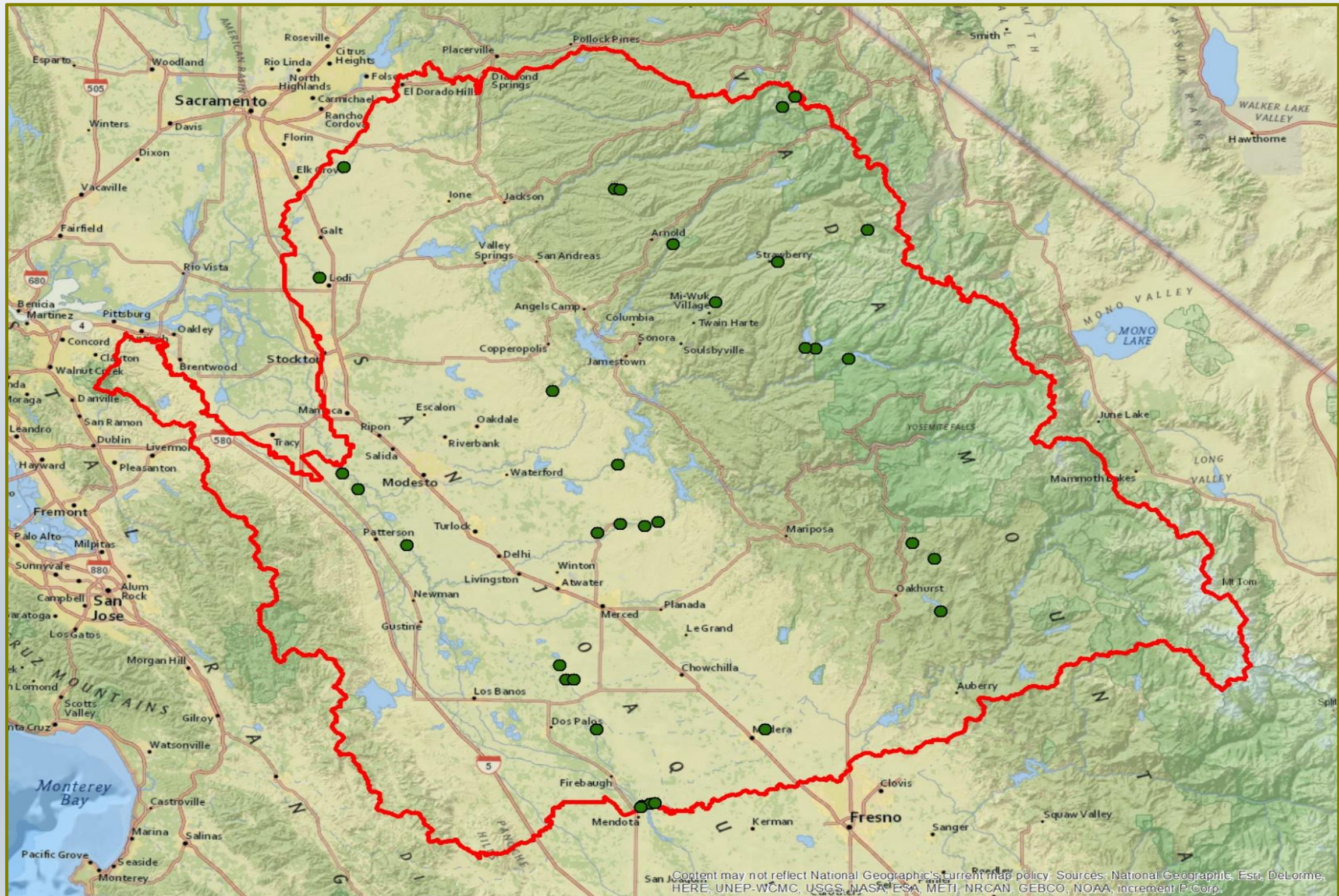
Area Subject to Information Order



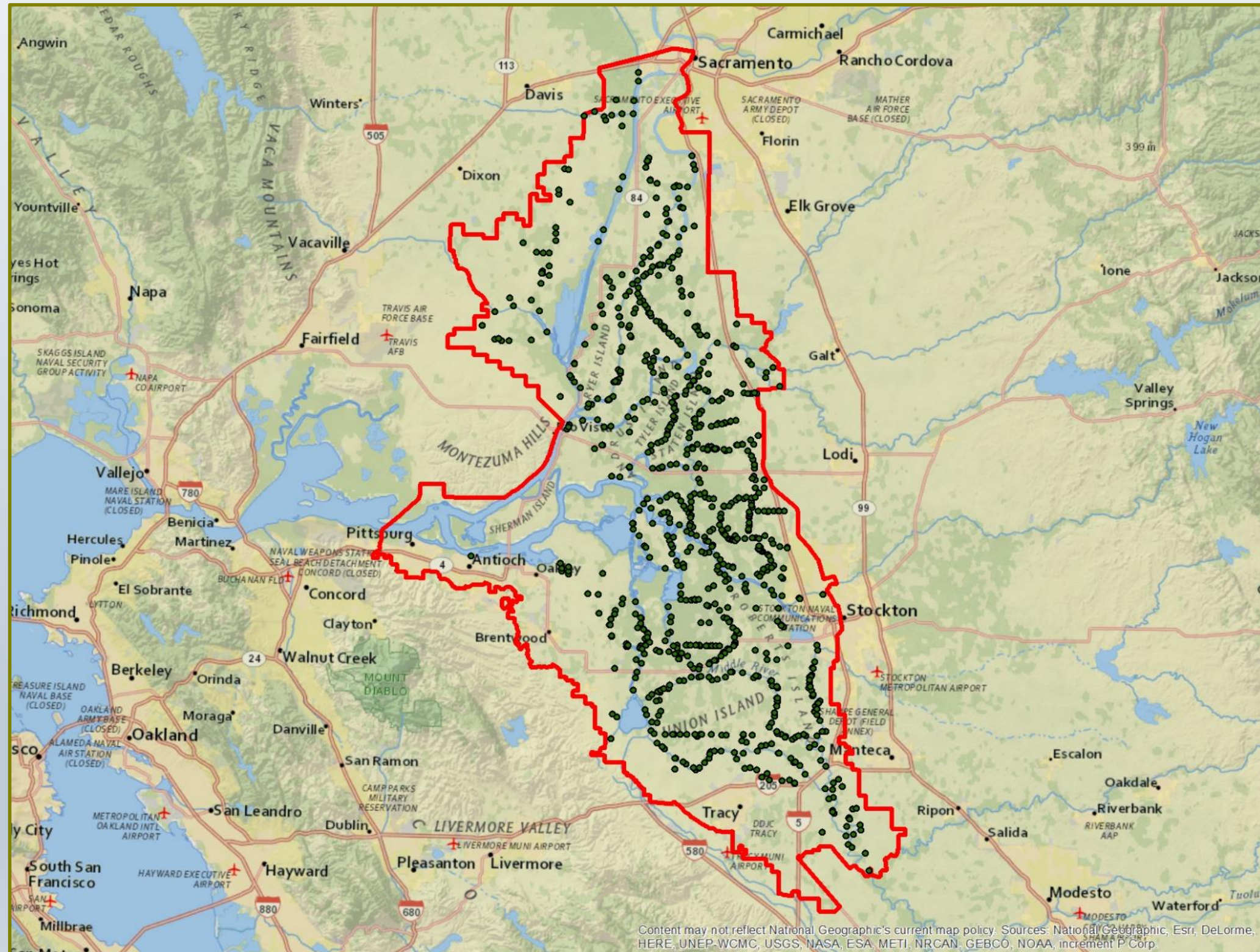
Sacramento River Watershed



San Joaquin River Watershed



Delta Watershed



First Comprehensive Taxonomy of Riparian and Pre-1914 Claims in the Watershed

Claim	Total Statements	Riparian Category					Pre-1914 Category				
		R1	R2	R3	R4	N/A	P1	P2	P3	P4	N/A
Only Riparian	108	9	9	18	72	0	0	0	0	72	36
Only Pre-14	75	0	0	0	6	69	27	11	31	6	0
Both	864	113	142	344	265	0	522	14	73	255	0
Neither	14	1	0	0	12	1	0	0	0	12	2
Total	1061	123	151	362	355	70	549	25	104	345	38

Security Blanket of a Water Supply Contract

Water Quality Control Plan

- **Phase 1 – San Joaquin River Flows & Southern Delta Salinity**
 - ✓ March 2018 - Response to Comments
- **Phase 2 – (Sacramento and Delta) Scientific Basis Report Under Review**
- **Flow Standards Required for WaterFix Change Petition Decision**
- **Voluntary Agreements May be Under Negotiation “Off Stage”**

An aerial photograph of a river delta system, likely the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta. The image shows a network of waterways branching out into a landscape of green fields and some trees. A semi-transparent blue rectangular box is overlaid on the left and center of the image, containing white text. The text is arranged in three lines: the first line is the title, the second line is a description of the organization's purpose, and the third line is about membership. The background shows a mix of agricultural land, some trees, and a winding waterway.

Update on Delta Measurement Experimentation Consortium:

Organized to Rapidly Experiment to Meet
Challenges of Diversion Measurement

Membership and Expertise from Across
the Delta

Update on Delta Measurement Experimentation Consortium:

Can we “Leapfrog” Mandate to Measure Every Diversion?

Will Data Support Limited Measurement + Extrapolation?

Will Real-time Data Supplant Diversion Measurement?

- No Storage
- How to Differentiate Reservoir Releases from Natural Flow?

Planning for Climate Change

SWRCB Resolution Adopted on March 7, 2017

Revision of Chapter 4 of Delta Plan

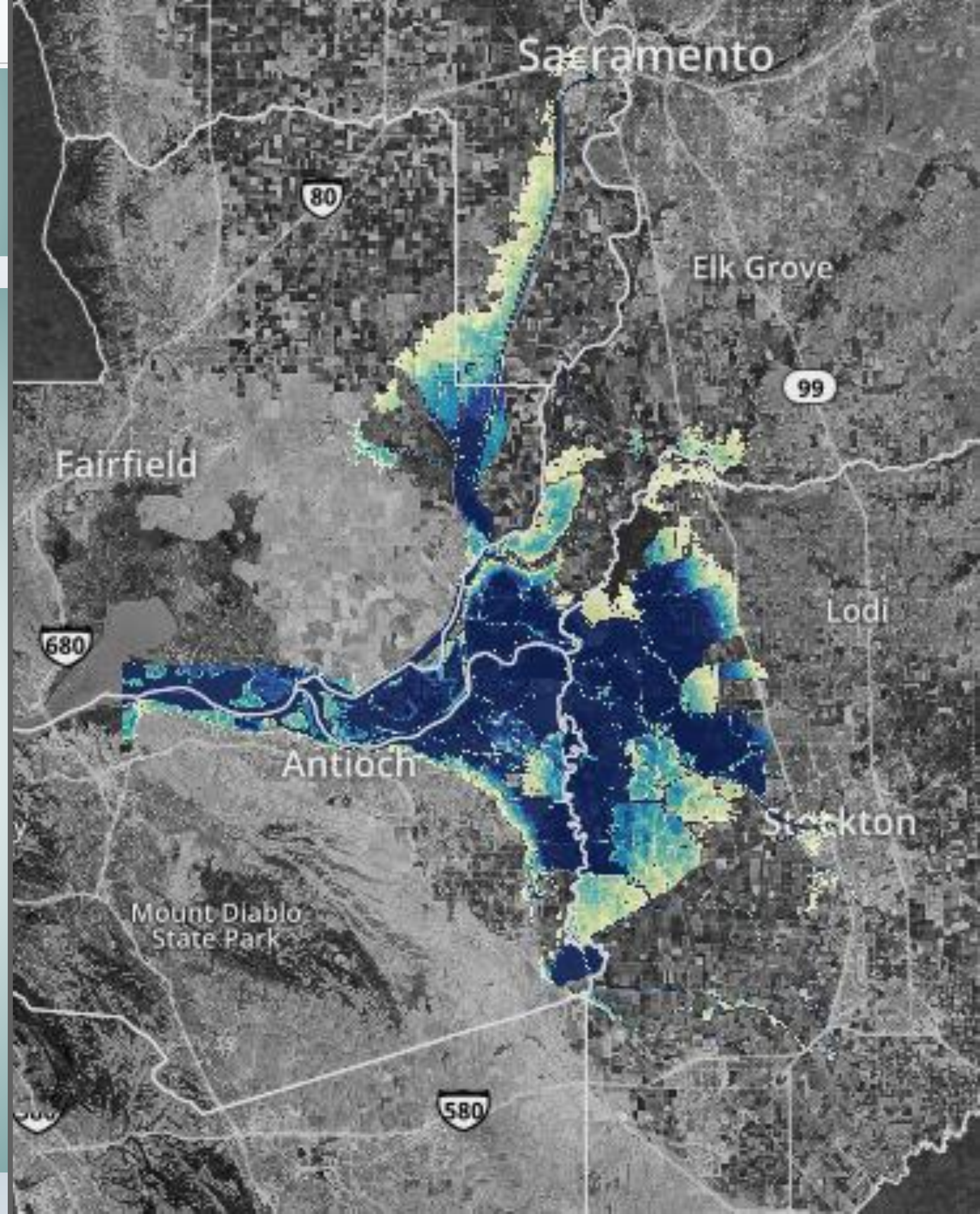
Down-scaled California Climate Change
Projections in Delta

Primary Challenge Relates to Sea Level Rise

Sea Level Rise Scenario

- Sacramento San Joaquin Delta
- Inundation of 100-year Flood with 1.4M of Sea Level Rise

(Cal-Adapt.org)





Current OBSERVATIONS:

Narrow Path for Progress: Entrenched Interests,
Conflicting Laws, Constant Litigation

Ecosystem, Water Supply and Delta as a Place
are All Deteriorating

One Delta/One Science and the Delta Plan
Represent Potential Harbingers of a Path Forward

Balancing Competing Values is Hard Work

Facing Climate Change Requires Planning Now
for the Delta's Future



Questions



Thank You

Michael George

Delta Watermaster

Email: michael.george@waterboards.ca.gov

Office Phone: (916) 445-5962

Kristi Matal

Communication and Outreach Specialist

Email: kristi.matal@waterboards.ca.gov

Office Phone: (916) 319-8264